

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 238306

FOR MATLOCK FROM GARRISON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. RE YOUR TRIP TO ALMA ATA, FEELING HERE IS THAT AT THIS TIME AND WITH MARSHALL AWAY IT WOULD BE BEST FOR YOU NOT TO LEAVE.

2. AMBASSADOR STOESSEL SAYS NO NEED TO TAKE MORE PICTURES AT SPASO.

3. ON MONDAY, SEPT. 27, GENERAL CHAPMAN IS GOING TO HAVE A PRESS CONFERENCE ON THE WAR CRIMES EVIDENCE ISSUE. THE CONFERENCE IS BEING CALLED TO REPORT ON EFFORTS TO GATHER EVIDENCE IN ISRAEL. HOWEVER, IF HE IS ASKED ABOUT THE EFFORTS TO OBTAIN EVIDENCE FROM THE USSR, WE ANTICIPATE THAT HE WILL ANSWER THE QUESTIONS. THIS MAY GENERATE SOME PRESS INQUIRIES FOR YOU.

4. SOVIETS FINALLY REQUESTED TO SEE THEIR PILOT AND WE ARE WORKING ON IT. MAY BE SOME ACTION NEXT FEW DAYS.

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5. ON MRS. R'S VISIT, AFTER MEETING WITH HER PEOPLE TODAY, WE GOT CLEAR IMPRESSION THAT SHE WOULD APPRECIATE SOME KIND OF SMALL SOCIAL FUNCTION WITH A FEW SOVIETS. ONLY SHE, HER DAUGHTER AND MRS. I WOULD BE INCLUDED. OUR FEELING IS SHE WOULD PREFER REAL PEOPLE RATHER THAN SOMETHING STIFF AND OFFICIAL. IF THIS IS POSSIBLE PERHAPS YOU COULD SUGGEST IT FOR MONDAY, OCTOBER 11 AND RECOMMEND INVITEES. IF NOT RPT NOT POSSIBLE, WE FEEL BEST WAY OF HANDLING WOULD BE TO RECOMMEND SOMETHING HIGHLY ATTRACTIVE FOR THAT EVENING WHICH WOULD OBVIATE NEED TO DO FUNCTION. WE WOULD HANDLE WITH HER STAFF THEREAFTER.

6. WE HAVE CONTINUED TO WORK WITH AGENCIES CONCERNED AND WITH POUCH PEOPLE ON DAO PROJECT. THE GROUP HAS LOOKED HARD AT THE OPTIONS FOR THE DAO PROJECT AND CAN ONLY CONCLUDE THAT THE MOST EFFECTIVE WAY OF SENDING THE MATERIALS IS BY CHARTER CARGO FLIGHT. WE ARE WORKING ON A MESSAGE SETTING FORTH THE DETAILS AND A PROPOSAL SCENARIO, BUT I WANTED YOU TO KNOW IN ADVANCE OUR REASONS FOR CHOOSING THIS OPTION RATHER THAN POUCH OPTION.

A. WE ARE TOLD THAT THE TOTAL SHIPMENT WEIGHS ABOUT 38,000 POUNDS AND IS PACKED IN 249 PACKAGES. OUR POUCH PEOPLE TELL US THAT MANY OF THESE WOULD NOT FIT INTO THE HOLD OF A DC-9 WHICH IS THE AIRCRAFT USED IN REGULAR COURIER FLIGHTS OUT OF VIENNA.

B. WHILE IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO SEND ITEMS SEPARATELY ON REGULAR PAA FLIGHTS (BOEING 707) OUT OF NEW YORK, WHICH IS NOW USED FOR UNACCOMPANIED POUCHES ONLY, BY ADDING COURIERS FOR LENGTH OF TIME NEEDED TO SHIP MATERIALS, LOGISTICS WOULD BE A NIGHTMARE. WE ARE TOLD THAT SOME 20 TO 30 CRATES WOULD HAVE TO ARRIVE BEFORE PROJECT COULD BEGIN. BECAUSE OF LARGE SIZE OF MANY CRATES AND LIMITED CARGO SPACE ON PAA FLIGHTS, IT WOULD TAKE DOZENS OF FLIGHTS AND AT LEAST SEVERAL MONTHS TO SEND MATERIAL FOR EVEN FIRST STAGE OF PROJECT. ARRIVAL OF REST OF PROJECT WOULD BE STRUNG OUT IN SHIPMENTS OVER NEXT SEVERAL MONTHS. THIS, IT SEEMS TO US, WOULD MAKE THE PROJECT EVEN MORE CONSPICUOUS THAN IF MATERIALS ARE SENT IN ONE SHIPMENT.

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C. LENGTH OF TIME AND FACT THAT MANY SEPARATE OPERATIONS WOULD BE INVOLVED WOULD OFFER SOVIETS MORE OPPORTUNITIES TO DELAY OR TAMPER WITH MATERIALS. USE OF REGULAR COURIER-ACCOMPANIED FLIGHTS WOULD SEEM TO OFFER NO

ADDITIONAL PROTECTION OVER COURIER-ACCOMPANIED CHARTER FLIGHT SINCE MATERIAL WOULD BE PACKED AS DIPLOMATIC

POUCHES IN BOTH CASES. EACH SEPARATE STAGE WOULD HAVE TO BE TECHNICALLY VERIFIED IN MOSCOW BEFORE USE IN ENCLOSURE. (WASHINGTON AGENCY PLANS TO SEND TECHNICAL TEAM TO VERIFY MATERIALS IN ANY CASE.) IN ADDITION, WE BELIEVE VISIBILITY WOULD BE AS HIGH AS IN CHARTER FLIGHT OPTION SINCE MATERIALS WOULD HAVE TO BE SECURELY STORED IN EMBASSY COURTYARD FOR DURATION OF PROJECT. (WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT EMBASSY ATTIC COULD BE USED FOR STORAGE OF MATERIALS BECAUSE OF FLOOR LOAD PROBLEM WHICH WOULD OCCUR IF SIGNIFICANT QUANTITIES WERE STACKED IN ONE PLACE; THIS IS DIFFERENT PROBLEM FROM FLOOR LOADING OF COMPLETED ENCLOSURE, WHICH WILL BE EVENLY DISTRIBUTED.)

7. HIAS PHONED DEPARTMENT ON SEPT. 23 CONCERNING KRAPIVENSKIY FAMILY IN VIENNA AND SAID FAMILY IS CONSIDERING GOING TO ROME TO APPLY FOR TCP PROCESSING TO U.S. WE GAVE HIAS BACKGROUND OF CASE AND SAID KRAPIVENSKIYS HAD DEFINITE AGREEMENT WITH EMBASSY THAT THEY WOULD PROCEED TO ISRAEL. HIAS WILL INFORM KRAPIVENSKIYS THAT TO BREAK AGREEMENT AND ATTEMPT TO APPLY IN ROME COULD RESULT IN PERMANENTLY DAMAGING ANY CHANCES OF THE FAMILY EVER BEING RECONSIDERED FOR U.S. ENTRY, AND THAT VIOLATION OF AGREEMENT WILL JEOPARDIZE EMBASSY'S ABILITY IN THE FUTURE TO ISSUE PROFORMA VISAS IN SIMILAR CASES WHEN SOVIET EMIGRANT HAS SOVIET EXIT PERMISSION FOR U.S., BUT DOES NOT QUALIFY FOR U.S. VISA. KISSINGER

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